

An extension to respond to the Office Action is respectfully requested. A Petition of time to respond to the Office Action and the appropriate fee are being filed concurrently with this Amendment.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend Claim(s) 1, 25, and 41. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages 6-7).

- Am 017
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1. (Twice Amended) A surgical device for a coronary bypass procedure comprising:
a retaining element having an aperture defining an operative site; and
a holder on the retaining element, the holder positioned to attach a connector to the retaining element, the connector being positioned by the holder to extend underneath an artery such that the connector compresses and occludes the artery against a surface on the retaining element at a first arterial position on a first side of the operative site and at a second arterial position on a second side of the operative site.

25. (Twice Amended) A surgical retractor for a coronary bypass procedure comprising;
a retaining base having an aperture that exposes an operative site, the base including a cord retainer;
a holder on the retaining base; and
a cord that attaches to the holder such that artery tissue can be compressed and occluded between the cord and the retaining base and held stationary relative to the retaining base with the cord and the cord retainer.

- B3
41. (Twice Amended) A disposable surgical retractor for a coronary bypass procedure comprising;
a plastic retaining base having an aperture that exposes an operative site, the aperture extending along a longitudinal axis of the base;

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a plurality of holders on the retaining base such that a first holder is positioned on a first side of the aperture and a second holder is positioned on a second side of the aperture, the first holder and the second holder being positioned to attach a cord to the retaining base such that the cord compresses and occludes a coronary artery positioned between the cord and a portion of the retaining base; and

an arm attached to the base and extending above the base such that a user can position the base at the operative site with the coronary artery exposed through the aperture.
